

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

building a central repository of data structures, the data structures provided to the central repository by hardware entities of a computing device; and

displaying hardware configuration settings of the hardware entities during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device using a browser running on a remote console communicatively coupled to the computing device via a network, the hardware configuration settings based at least in part on the data structures provided to the central repository.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising changing at least one of the hardware configuration settings in response to input received via the browser.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein displaying further includes displaying hardware configuration settings based at least in part on the data structures and nonvolatile data associated with the hardware entities.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein building the central repository further includes providing the central repository with the data structures being described using a language convertible to a markup language.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the markup language is an extensible markup language (“XML”).

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein displaying the hardware configuration settings includes executing a translator on the computing device, the translator to convert the data structures into the XML prior to displaying the hardware configuration settings using the browser.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein changing at least one of the hardware configuration settings includes executing a translator on the computing device, the translator to update nonvolatile data associated with the hardware entities with XML data received from the browser.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the hardware entities include at least one of a motherboard and an add-in card of the computing device.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein displaying hardware configuration settings includes displaying policy settings of the hardware entities of the computing

device using the browser, the policy settings based at least in part on the data structures provided to the central repository.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein building the central repository of the data structures includes building the central repository in a system memory of the computing device, the data structures obtained from binaries being stored in option read only memories (“ROMs”) of the hardware entities, the central repository being built during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device.

12. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:
converting hardware configuration settings being stored in firmware of a computing device to a markup language during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device; and
conveying the markup language to a browser to display the hardware configuration settings in the browser during the pre-boot runtime of the computing device.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12, further comprising:
changing at least one of the hardware configuration settings stored in the firmware during the pre-boot runtime of the computing device in response to input received via the browser.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the browser is a web browser executing on a remote console communicatively coupled to the computing device via a network.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer-accessible medium that provides instructions that, if executed by a computing device, will cause the computing device to perform operations comprising:

generating a browser page to display hardware configuration settings of hardware entities of a computing device during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device using a browser, the hardware configuration settings based at least in part on data structures provided by the hardware entities; and

changing at least one of the hardware configuration settings during the pre-boot runtime of the computing device in response to input received via the browser.

16. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 15 wherein the instructions for generating the browser page further include instructions to generate the browser page to be displayed in a web browser of a remote console communicatively coupled to the computing device via a network.

17. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 15 wherein the instructions for generating the browser page further include instructions to display the hardware configuration settings based at least in part on the data structures and nonvolatile data associated with the hardware entities.

18. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 15 wherein the data structures are described using a language convertible to a markup language.

19. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 18 wherein the markup language is an extensible markup language ("XML").

20. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 19 wherein the instructions for generating the browser page include instructions to execute a translator to convert the data structures into the XML prior to generating the browser page to display the hardware configuration settings.

21. (Original) The computer-accessible medium of claim 15, wherein the hardware entities include at least one of a motherboard and an add-in card of the computing device.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a computing device, including:

a processor;

multiple hardware entities communicatively coupled to the processor; and

a nonvolatile memory unit coupled to the processor, the nonvolatile memory unit having stored therein a translator to be executed by the processor, the translator to monitor a port of the computing device and to convert data structures corresponding to the multiple hardware entities into a markup language to generate a browser page to display hardware configuration settings of the multiple hardware entities in a browser in response to a requested received on the port.

24. (Original) The system of claim 23, further comprising:

a network communicatively coupled to the computing device; and

a remote console communicatively coupled to the network, the browser to execute on the remote console, the translator to update nonvolatile data associated with at least one of the hardware entities in response to markup language data received from the browser.

25. (Original) The system of claim 24, wherein the browser is a web browser.

26. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the browser is to be executed by the computing device and wherein the translator to update nonvolatile data associated with at least one of the hardware entities in response to markup language data received from the browser.

27. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the hardware entities each include a firmware unit, the firmware units of the hardware entities having the data structures stored therein as binaries, the binaries to be contributed as the data structures to a central repository.

28. (Original) The system of claim 27 wherein the binaries are to be contributed as the data structures to the central repository during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device.

29. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the nonvolatile memory unit comprises a firmware unit of a motherboard of the computing device.

30. (Original) The system of claim 23 wherein the nonvolatile memory unit comprises a hard disk of the computing device.

31. (New) The system of claim 23, wherein the translator is configured to monitor the port of the computing device during a pre-boot runtime of the computing device prior to loading an operating system and is further configured to generator the browser page in response to the request during the pre-boot runtime.